

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9197

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 1058

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PINT, XF

SUBJECT: WEST BANK PRESS REJECTS LINK WITH JORDAN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY: PRESIDENT CARTER'S SUBSTITUTION OF THE TERM PALESTINIAN ENTITY (KIYAN) FOR PALESTINIAN HOMELAND (WATAN) AND HIS SUGGESTION THAT IT BE TIED TO JORDAN IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE OF JULY 12 HAVE BEEN REPORTED PROMINENTLY IN THE WEST BANK ARABIC PRESS. WHILE THE MODERATE NEWSPAPER AL QUDS, HAS HELD ITS PEACE, THE MORE OUTSPOKEN NATIONALISTIC PRESS HAS SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE CHANGE IN TERMINOLOGY. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT CARTER'S ME REMARKS IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE OF JULY 12 WERE BANNERED BY AL QUDS: "CARTER REJECTS ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN HOMELAND, ANNOUNCES THAT SADAT HAS INFORMED HIM OF AGREEMENT WITH HUSSEIN TO LINK PALESTINIAN ENTITY WITH JORDAN". STORY BASED
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ON WIRE SERVICES GIVES TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT INCLUDING DENIAL THAT U.S. INTENDS TO IMPOSE ITS PREFERENCES ON PARTIES XUPRK #

3. WHILE AL QUDS (MODERATE AND PRO-JORDANIAN) HAS REMAINED EDITORIALY SILENT, THE PRO-PLO

AL FAJR RESPONDED SHARPLY WITH AN EDITORIAL JULY 19.

"THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WANT PEACE AND ARE SINCERE IN THIR CALL FOR PEACE, BUT AN AMERICAN PEACE BACKED UP BY SADAT IS NOT THE PEACE THAT THE PALESTINIANS WANT. CONDITIONAL PEACE IS SURRENDER. WE WANT THE RIGHT TO DECIDE OUR OWN DESTINY AND ESTABLISH OUR OWN STATE BY OURSELVES. WE HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO HAVE TIES WITH WHOMEVER WE WISH OR NOT HAVE TIES AT ALL. AS FOR PRE-CONDITIONS, WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE THEM. THE CONDITION THAT WE SHOULD HAVE TIES WITH JORDAN WILL PUSH US BACK TO A DISGUSTING PAST FULL OF HUMILIATION, BACK TO THE DAYS WHEN A POLICEMAN OF HIS MAJEST WOULD HERD A WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD TO JAIL ... WE HOPE THAT AMERICA AND SADAT UNDERSTAND NOW THE MEANING OF A RETURN TO JORDAN AND THE MEANING OF A THOROUGH STUDY OF HISTORY". END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN CLASSIFIED COMMENT: IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT WEST BANK PALESTINIANS REJECT NOT SO MUCH TIES WITH JORDAN AS HAVING FUTURE RELATIONS DECIDED BY OUTSIDERS. EVEN MANY OF THE MORE NATIONALISTIC MAYORS GRANT THE GEOGRAPHIC ECONOMIC REALITIES DICTATE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN ANY WEST BANK/GAZA ENTITY AND JORDAN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, TO ALMOST ALL WEST BANK PALESTINIANS THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, EVEN IF POSTPONED DUE TO THE NEED FOR A TRANSITION PERIOD, IS SACRED. FULLY AWARE OF ISRAELI AVERSION TO THE TERM "HOMELAND" (AS ONLY HEIRS OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION WOULD BE AVERSE TO IT WHEN LINKED WITH THE WORD PALESTINIAN), MANY WEST BANKERS VIEW THE USE OF "ENTITY" AS PREJUDICING THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. END CLASSIFIED. NEWLIN

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED

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Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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